

***Pterospermum truncatolobatum* Gagnepain [Sterculiaceae] – an addition to the flora of Myanmar**

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Abstract

Pterospermum truncatolobatum Gagnepain [Sterculiaceae] is reported here as new record for Myanmar. This species is described from Vietnam and later found to grow in China. Detailed descriptions and scanned image of the specimen are provided.

Key words: *Pterospermum truncatolobatum*, Shan hills, Myanmar, new addition.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Pterospermum* Schreber [Sterculiaceae] comprises of 25 species is distributed in tropical Asia (Mabberley 2008). The species of the genus are mostly tall trees and few are shrubs. The flowers are actinomorphic with narrow staminal tubes and winged seeds. According to Kurz (1877) there are 6 species under this genus in the then British Burma. Later W. John Kress *et al* (2003) reported 10 species of this genus from Myanmar. During a recent study on the genus, the present author came across a specimen collected in 1892 from Shan hills of upper Burma wrongly identified as *Pterospermum aceroides* Wallich. In a note in this sheet on 28.2.1898 *G. king* mentioned that ‘This is not *P. aceroides* Wallich, the capsule is quite different. This is probably a new species.’ After a critical examination of the specimen it reveals that it is nothing but *Pterospermum truncatolobatum* Gagnepain which is generally confined to Southern China and Northern Vietnam. The species is so far not reported from Myanmar and hence reported here as new addition to the Flora of Myanmar. Detailed descriptions and a scanned image of the specimen are provided for easy identification of this phytogeographically interesting species.

Taxonomic treatments:

Pterospermum truncatolobatum Gagnepain, Notul. Syst. (Paris) 1: 84 – 85. 1909; Tang Ya *et al* in Fl. China 12: 327. 2007. PLATE I

Trees, c. 30 – 33 m tall, bark striate. Branches yellow-brown densely tomentose when young, becoming glabrous during maturity. Leaves oblong-obovate, usually irregularly lobed, 8 – 16 x 4.5 – 8.5 cm, upper surface densely gray-white or yellow-brown stellate tomentose,



Photo 1: *Pterospermum truncatolobatum* Gagnepain [Sterculiaceae]: the cited specimen,

lower surface glabrous or minutely hairy along midvein, base cordate or obliquely cordate, apex truncate and 3 – 5 lobed; stipules palmately 3 – 5-fimbriate, densely hairy, caducous; petioles robust, 4 – 12 mm long. Flowers solitary, nearly sessile. Epicalyx lobes fimbriate. Sepals linear, 4.5 – 6.5 x c. 0.4 cm, abaxially densely brown tomentose, adaxially silvery white villous. Petals linear-falcate, 3 – 6 x 0.4 – 0.5 cm, base tapering. Stamens c. 3.5 cm long, staminodes filiform, 5 cm, glabrous. Ovary ovoid, hairy. Capsules ovoid or ovoid-cylindrical, prominently 5-angular and 5-grooved, 5.5 – 9.5 cm long and 5 – 7 cm across, woody, densely brown stellate tomentose, base narrowed into 2 – 3 cm long stipe. Seeds 6 – 10 per locule, in 2 rows, 3 – 5.5 cm long including wing, wings brown, apex obtuse or truncate.

Type: Vietnam, Tonkin, Latson, 19.8.1891, *H.F. Bon* 4862; Dong-son, 16.1.1886, *Balansa* 1305 (Syntypes-P).

Flowering: July; **Fruiting:** February

Distribution: Vietnam, China, Myanmar (recorded here).

Exsiccatae: **MYANMAR:** Upper Burma, Shan hills, February, 1892, *Abdul Huk* 123, Acc. no. 59164 (CAL). **CHINA:** Yunnan, 1897, *Dr. Aug. Henry* 11354 (CAL) (2 collections).

Note: Earlier recorded from Vietnam and China. The cited collection (*Abdul Huk* 123) from Shan hills, Upper Burma shows its extended distribution in Myanmar.

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